



Funding Opportunities for your School

Support from the FSC

FSC Kids Fund

The Kids Fund is funded by donations, mainly from FSC members who commit part of their membership subscription to the Fund but also through donations and fundraising events.

The Kids Fund aims to

- bring environmental understanding to disadvantaged young people by attending a course at an FSC centre
- help disadvantaged young people to attend a course who may otherwise be excluded due to some form of disadvantage - health, mobility, deprivation or financial.

Voluntary or schools groups are eligible to apply for young people between the ages of 8 and 18 to attend an environmental learning or environmental activity FSC course. A school group may apply if they are aiming to provide benefits which are additional to the statutory school curriculum or clearly show added value, depth and breadth to the taught curriculum. The FSC Kids Fund may support up to 80% of the course fee to a maximum of £3000. It will not pay for young people to attend curriculum-focused FSC courses - please see FSC Bursary Fund.

Applications to Kids Fund are considered in February, June and October

Details of how to apply <http://www.field-studies-council.org/kidsfund>

FSC Bursary Fund

FSC Bursaries are awarded to schools that have **individuals** within their groups who are unable to attend a curriculum course at an FSC Centre due to financial disadvantage. We aim to support young people whose home postcode connects to one of the 10% most deprived areas of the UK. Indices of Multiple Deprivation are used as the indicator of deprivation. Bursaries of up to 80% of the course fee for the individual may be offered. The FSC Bursary Fund support individuals on curriculum-focused FSC courses.

Details of how to apply including how to check eligibility can be found at <http://www.field-studies-council.org/supporters/bursaryfund.aspx>

Additional support for courses with the FSC

Extended Services Disadvantage Subsidy

The extended services disadvantage subsidy is part of the government's commitment to the provision of extended services in and around school. The subsidy funding is designed to subsidise access to out of school activities for economically disadvantaged children and young people and children in care – to help improve their well-being, raise achievement and narrow the attainment gap.

The funding is allocated to each local authority and distributed to schools to support those who are most financially disadvantaged. There are many different methods used by LAs to divide up the subsidy to allow for local circumstances. Each LA will have a member of staff to coordinate Extended Schools Services. Only schools can access the funds. Supporting the costs of a course with the FSC could be a cost eligible for this subsidy. We know that schools in Buckinghamshire and Portsmouth have already used this funding to support young people to attend courses at FSC Centres.

For more information see FAQs

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/remodelling/extendedschools/howtodeliveres/subsidy.aspx>

Grants available for local environmental projects

Grants open and close regularly so this is a suggested list and we cannot take responsibility for the funds being open or any changes in funding criteria.

Local grants

Small grants are often available at a local level. Organisations such as Community Councils, local Voluntary and Community Action groups (www.navca.org.uk), Regional Development Agencies Grassroots Grants, local Cooperative societies or Local Authorities are worth exploring for funds under £5000.

BIG Lottery Community Wildlife Programme

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_community_wildlife

The programme is open to a wide range of organisations including voluntary and community organisations, schools, town and parish councils, and statutory health authorities. Grants of between **£300 and £10,000** are available for:

Projects that improve rural or urban environments for people to enjoy, for example by:

- protecting wildlife habitats
- creating a nature trail, woodland walk or wildlife garden
- improving community spaces, such as rivers, ponds and woodlands.

Projects that get people more active and healthier, for example by:

- exploring parks, rivers and the countryside to look for rare or endangered species
- encouraging people to take up gardening or go on nature walks
- providing opportunities for children to learn about nature through play.

The programme has been launched with up to £2 million available across the UK and organisations can submit applications before the three programme deadlines of 21st July, 22nd September and the 24th November 2010.

Ernest Cook Trust

www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk

Charitable Trust interested in educational activity connected to National Curriculum
Focus on working with young people on countryside and environmental projects, arts and literacy and numeracy.

Grant size: £100 to £4,000 small grants; £4,000 to £10,000 large projects
No capital grants available

Deadline: Large grants applications are considered once a year and small grants at approx 5 meetings per year (see web site for further details and dates).

Awards for All

www.awardsforall.org.uk

Part of the National Lottery

Small awards for a wide range of extra curricula activities including work in schools grounds, after school clubs, and one off expenses such as an artist in residence, residential visit or purchase of tools and equipment.

Grant size: £300 to £10,000

Capital and revenue funds

Deadline: Open - can apply at anytime with an approx 4 month turnaround time for a decision. Electronic forms and guidelines available from website

STEM Access Grants

www.stemnet.org.uk

Funding to encourage uptake of science, technology, engineering and maths.

Schools from across the UK are invited to bid for up to 10k pa to support meaningful STEM activities to engage their pupils and which:

- Involve a significant number of pupils from the BME communities specified above (at least 50 per cent of the pupils taking part in the project should be from these groups)
- Support the Work Related Learning Agenda at Key Stages 3 and 4, and/or Applied GCSEs and demonstrate clear STEM curriculum links
- Utilise existing STEM schemes or initiatives
- Demonstrate links to the world of work
- Involve appropriate STEM role models
- Demonstrate development opportunities for teachers;
- Where possible, augment funding with other sources;
- Offer suggested measures of success.

Grant size: Up to £10,000

Deadline: Applications invited each year within a timeframe – see web site for more specific details.

Ford Britain Trust

www.ford.co.uk/ns7/fbtrust

Small scale funding for local environment action and educational initiatives involving young people.

Only available in areas of UK where Ford Motor Co Ltd has a presence. Small grants up to £250k – decisions made 4 times a year; large grants up to £3000 decisions twice a year.

Hedley Foundation

www.hedleyfoundation.org.uk

Only registered charities can apply for small grants (£3k on average)

Main criteria for applications are projects that encourage development and change and must involve young people and education. Most grants are for capital works and are 'one-off'.

Decision making Board meets 6 times a year.

Application details from website

The Royal Society Partnership Grants

www.royalsociety.org/page.asp?id=1948

£250 - £3000 to encourage teachers to work with local scientists or engineers to design activities for students aged 5-18 years. Web site examples include secondary school work on studying biodiversity and ecology topics. Open applications.

B&Q 'One Planet Living' Award

www.diy.com/diy/jsp/bg/templates/content_lookup.jsp?content=/aboutbandq/social_responsibility

Small grants of £50- £250 worth of B&Q materials to support local community projects, for example, plants, peat-free compost, pond liners; paints and tools. You will need to contact the environmental champion or the store manager at your local store to discuss the project details. Applications can take 3-4 weeks to process.

Countrywide UK Trust

www.countrywideuktrust.org.uk/

This trust can provide assistance with funds to support young people to attend outdoor learning experiences who would otherwise not be able to afford to participate.

British Ecological Society

www.britishecologicalsociety.org/grants/education/index.php

The Ecological Education Grants are to support and enable teachers to teach ecology in more innovative, interesting and exciting ways to inspire students.

Grants are offered in 4 categories:

- Innovation and research
- Field Equipment
- Professional Development courses
- Specialist courses

Foundation – A climate Fund for the North West

<http://foundation.climatefund.org.uk/>

Provides funding to support carbon reduction projects across the North West. May include energy saving measures, woodland restoration / planting and even smaller projects.

Jenny Wood Environmental Trust

36 Oak Village, London, NW5 4QN

Grants are awarded annually for between £600 to £2500. Individuals or organisations can apply for practical, imaginative environmental projects which also raise environmental awareness.

10 Top tips for applying for external funds:

- Read the guidelines very thoroughly
- If you have any doubts as to your eligibility phone or email the funder before you invest time and energy in an application
- Complete the application with great care – answer all questions and don't waffle
- Collect your evidence of need for the project and use it to tell your funder why you need funds
- Be very clear about what your project will actually do (outputs) and what the longer term benefits will be (outcomes)
- Keep clear notes on assumptions you make when creating your budget – again don't be vague
- Most funders like to see your financial contributions to the project and this can often be 'in kind' so count up days help from volunteers
- Evaluation and monitoring are important elements of the project and should be included in your plans and budget considerations
- Involve lots of people in initial ideas and planning but writing a final application form by committee is hard work. Try and get a small team (max 3) to be responsible for the final application form
- Explain your ideas clearly. We all use jargon and make assumptions and often what we think is clear is not understood by funders. Get someone who doesn't know the project to cast a critical eye over the final words before you submit the application.

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